

PROLETARIAN clothes, Che Guevara hair, Lenin beards and revolutionary moustaches . . . it was a kind of political fairground.

Wild-eyed students made explosive speeches against repression and fascism to milling crowds.

This was the scene at the Sorbonne, Paris, in May last year when students, later joined by workers, brought the city to a standstill.

It all began with a "quite frivolous" male students' raid on a girls' dormitory.

The students, including the fiery student leader Daniel Cohn - Bendit, were caught.

This was the beginning — and from there it escalated.

This is how British writer Anthony Sampson pictures the student revolt in a controversial and colorful book, "The New Europeans".

REVOLT

Sampson, 42, is an Oxford graduate who served in the Royal Navy at the end of World War II and has worked on the London Observer.

In 1962 he wrote "Anatomy of Britain," which has sold nearly 200,000 copies in hardback editions. The book was a damning dissection of British society.

"The New Europeans", says Sampson, is an extension of his analysis of British society. It was written in September this year.

Sampson sees the student revolt as part of a movement more likely to revitalise Europe than to wreck it.

By DAVID GRIFFITHS

Sampson says that the Vietnam war with all its consequences, including draft dodgers in Europe, has created an "Atlantic community of students united against American policies".

This community of students, he says, is against:

- The consumer society.
- The repressive tolerance of the Establishment.
- The manipulation of mass media.

Sampson couples the student revolt with the rumblings of nationalists,

as in Scotland, and demonstrations by workers, as in France.

The threat to local autonomy by centralised power is the issue, Sampson believes. And he predicts this issue may replace the older issue of rivalry between world systems of government.

The European nations, he argues, are victims of their own "rivalries and suspicions."

And in a comprehensive catalogue he ranges from NATO to car - making —

each illustrating how the conflict of national interests is destroying hopes for European unity.

Europe, he says, should forget its technological, economic and defence inferiority compared with the U.S.

Perhaps Europe can have a major influence, he suggests, in ideas, civilisation and societies.

And political problems, he says, are quality - of - life problems . . .

- Maintaining individuality in a consumer society.
- Making use of leisure.
- Balancing private wealth with public services.

Sampson believes the U.S. has not resolved these problems.

Perhaps, he argues, the U.S. might look to Europe for a solution.

"The New Europeans," by Anthony Sampson; Hodder and Stoughton, \$6.65.

He enthuses that ideology might not be dead and that the students have unleashed a ferment of ideas.

"The European student revolt has reopened a serious debate on the nature of Western society for the first time for 20 years," he says.

"Underneath revolutionary fantasies of students, their most serious and promising contribution, I believe, is on the . . ."

* Page 8—The Sun, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 1968

A raid on a girls' dorm that came to change Europe . . .



● COHN-BENDIT
Caught!